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sciences of as many people as they can reach. They need not talk about the settlement, but in their own persons they must *be* the settlement."

It is his idea that the "settlement" is to be the "aggregating center for the spiritual and social forces of construction." As one reads these pages so full of spiritual inspiration one realizes that only those who went through the awful war and kept the faith could have written these words of idealism that the writer believes may become a reality.

It strengthens one's own faith to have quotations from such as Arthur Henderson, R. H. Tawney, and our own Jane Addams. Arthur Henderson, the labor leader, speaking of these settlements where all who want to serve in fellowship meet together, says "We have to extend the range of their power, and to develop their activities as a means of promoting the unity of classes, and of spreading a new conception of brotherhood amongst all sections of the community."

Mr. Freeman appeals to men and women who are not afraid of ideals, and not bound by conventionalism. The war and its effect on the community has brought him face to face with reality; he says "I do not know if there will be a revolution, but I do know that it could be avoided."

Social workers, church workers, university men and women of imagination in America will find here a message if they want it.

MARY E. McDOWELL

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO SETTLEMENT

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*New Schools for Old.* By EVELYN DEWEY. E. P. Dutton & Co., 1919. Pp. xi+337. \$2.00.

"Sentimental attachment to the 'Little Red Schoolhouse' of yesterday does not justify the maintenance of an anachronism today. Mrs. Harvey, by her work in Porter Township, has proved that the plant and equipment surviving from a formerly prized institution may be so utilized even in our communities as at present organized that the school may again touch every interest of old and young."

With this statement Miss Dewey closes her discussion of the Porter School, located near Kirksville, Missouri. It is an account of the work done by Mrs. Marie Turner Harvey in the regeneration of an out-at-the-heels, one-room rural school. It is more than a mere description, however, being in reality a study of the country-life problem in the concrete and an interpretation of the regenerative power of a socialized rural school.

There can be little doubt that the one-room rural school must be made over or abandoned. Mrs. Harvey set out to demonstrate that it can be made into a vital force in the building up from within of an ordinary rural community, economically, socially, and educationally, within the present generation. She has so far succeeded that Porter School has served not only as a sort of national rural-school experiment station but as a model for thousands of rural teachers. While it would be foolish to expect the poorly trained young girls in charge of most of our rural schools to do what a zealous and talented woman has done, yet Mrs. Harvey, in her seven years' work, has done much to stimulate general interest in a vital problem and to restore the faith of the expert.

Miss Dewey has shown genuine insight into rural problems and has given a valuable interpretation of the school approach to their solution. Her treatment is lacking in concreteness and seems unnecessarily long drawn out but it is penetrating and sound. Anyone interested in country-life problems or in the rural school would do well to read it.

WALTER R. SMITH

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

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*American Marriage Laws.* By FRED S. HALL and ELIZABETH W. BROOKE. New York: The Russell Sage Foundation, 1919. Pp. 132. \$1.00.

Those who are interested in the too-much-neglected topic of marriage legislation will appreciate the convenience of this simplified and comparative arrangement of our American statutes on the subject. Part I gives proposals for marriage-law reform, using as its chief authorities the Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, George Elliott Howard, Willystine Goodsell, and Frank Gaylord Cook. Part II summarizes existing laws by topics, making a comprehensive comparison of the legislation of all the states on the fundamental points involved. Part III gives a digest, arranged by states, of the marriage laws in each state of the Union. In a most striking way are brought out the numerous weaknesses in the diverse regulations of the various states, which probably constitute the most defective system of any great modern nation. More important to social welfare than the laws themselves is the question of their administration, a subject to be treated in a later volume to be published by the Russell Sage Foundation, to which this volume is preliminary.

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